Department of Educational Technology, New Jersey City University

Doctorate of Educational Technology Leadership

EDTC 803 Data Analysis and Report Writing

**Assessment 1 – Using Secondary Data**

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**Abstract**

In this paper, our focus is on a historical landmark and infuse technology so that it is interactive, appeals to a wide audience, and can provide appropriate physical distancing. We travelled in Summer 2019 to teach outside of our country the United States. We were teaching intensively during a hot summer at Shanghai International Studies University (SISU) in China. We want to show how the use of cutting-edge technology can make SISU a university with a museum of language considered as a historical landmark in China, more interactive, attractive to a wide audience with appropriate physical distancing.

**A historical landmark**

Shanghai International Studies University (SISU) is considered as a historical landmark in China. It was established after the World War II precisely in 1949. It is a historical landmark because of these reasons. First, it is one of the oldest and prestigious academic institutions in China and it has a museum of language. Second, it is easily seen and recognized from distance. Third, it can also enable someone in Shanghai, China to establish their location (There is signed for stop in the subway trains and buses with the name of the University – SISU, for instance) and it is situated close to a park in the center of Shanghai, China.

We were teaching three United States university-level classes - Money and Banking, Principles of Economics (Macroeconomics) and Principles of Economics (Microeconomics) and Credit Selected Studies for Summer 2019 Semester at Shanghai International Studies University campus within Xianda College of Economics and Humanities, from Monday through Friday every week for two hours per day per course. We had thirty students per class. The campus is large and exhibits the Chinese architecture with its culture, beautiful trees and flowers. It does

have a museum of language and a small stadium open to the public. It is a place where people go not only to study, participate to international conferences but also to have fun alone or with family and friends. The buildings are built with old style with many classrooms. We visited the museum of language because we were interested in Chinese language while we were teaching in China. We spoke with some people working there. They told us that they usually have people around the world visiting the museum. SISU is well maintained even though the buildings are old and the elevators or the computers do not work properly sometimes. This historical landmark needs some improvements with new technology.

**Improving the historical landmark with new technology**

As a historical landmark and academic institution, SISU needs to catch up with new technology so it can be more interactive, attractive to a wide audience and can provide appropriate physical distancing in this era of technology and also with the unprecedented global pandemic with China as epicenter. The classrooms and the museum of language need to be upgraded using new technology with computers and projectors that are performant with high speed internet connection and less or no power outage. The reality was that the computers and projectors can sometimes stop working while you are in middle of teaching. The can take quite some time to start. The power outages and loss of connectivity are frequent. The computers need to be upgraded and run with high speed internet. The exams and quizzes are paper-based. The grading is by hand. It does not give much time to the instructor so he/she can reinforce the evaluation of the students using some useful computer based assignments tools such as BlackBoard, Canvas, Moodle, Connect-McGrahill, MyEconLab-Pearson or MyStatLab-Pearson which are nowadays are widely used to enhance learning. The instructor will also have time to use an innovative and efficient method of teaching such as Digital Problem-Based Learning

(PBL), which is an effective and efficient teaching method where the students learn by actively engaging in real-world challenges and meaningful projects. All this will definitely make the classes at Shanghai International Studies University more interactive, more attractive to learners and can provide physical distancing because the students do not need to hand hard copy of their exams or quizzes to their instructor. Furthermore, it allows for interesting online discussions and reduction of potential transmission of viruses, bacteria and contact points.

As for the museum of language at SISU, the infusion of virtual technology to make it a virtual museum where people can take a virtual museum field trip and learn more about Chinese language and other languages is an important aspect to take into account. The use of computer application with English version and pedagogical technologies will be necessary because it allows the instructor who does not speak Chinese at first to use the computers and projectors to teach efficiently and improve learning and performance at SISU.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), which has a museum of language is a historical landmark. It is one of the oldest and prestigious academic institutions in China. It enables someone in Shanghai, China to establish their location and can be easily seen and recognized from distance. It is part of chinse culture and it attracts people around the world. However, it still needs to catch up with new technologies and upgrade its teaching tools to be interactive, to appeal to a wide audience, and offer appropriate physical distancing. The infusion and implementation of pedagogical technologies such as BlackBoard, Canvas, Moodle, Connect-McGrahill, MyEconLab-Pearson, MyStatLab-Pearson, and Zoom in its curriculum will improve learning and also make it more interactive, attractive to people around the world and provide appropriate physical distancing. The use of virtual technology to make its museum of language a virtual museum where people can virtually visit or take a virtual museum field trip anytime and anywhere with some fees it can charge will allow this landmark to face some challenges nowadays and continue be always a landmark in this era of high technology. However, this requires some investment from SISU by offering training on innovative technologies to its instructors and administrators. Digitalization is advancing fast in the world. It needs to be embraced by those have access to connectivity.

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